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# **NETWORK HELPS VETS AND FAMILIES LIVE BETTER LIVES**

Submitted by Michael D. Boll, President

Memorial Day weekend is one of the most challenging for the New Jersey Veterans Network and its team of volunteers and mentors. This is a difficult time for many veterans because they reflect on their brothers and sisters that didn't make it home. Every day our nation loses 22 veterans to suicide, and it seems that number isn't coming down. If you are a veteran, or a family member, who is feeling alone, or are in need of assistance, we are here for you. Please reach out to us.

Our team focuses on helping our veterans and first responders have a better way of life through our volunteer mobile outreach mentoring program. We believe by aggressively seeking out veterans in need and contacting them before they are in crisis, we can really have some positive results. Contacting a person in need first is a great way to build trust and make it easier to begin a friendship. People will do better when they have human contact in their lives, too many programs are automated and lack the empathy and compassion needed to help someone in crisis.

We are not afraid to tell our veterans and first responders that they are loved and we strive to give them purpose. The team immediately empowers and gives its members a new family unit to be part of again. Nearly everyone that joins the team wants to help others and make a difference in someone else's life. Helping others definitely is a medicine that will make you become a better person, and you'll feel really good about it.

New Jersey Veterans Network is constantly keeping active thru our Operation Rebound Racing Team which hosts numerous hikes, runs, bike rides and all other types of physically challenging events. However, we also focus on non athletic events like hosting a BBQ, comedy show, tailgate, camping trip, and several other fun outings throughout the year. But it doesn't stop there, the team works well with other charities and hosts numerous food drives and clothing events which normally take place at our veteran hospitals and shelters. If you would like to help, there is something for you to contribute.

Most recently, in April, our outreach director Frank "Doc" Schupp spearheaded our "Helping Heroes" program, and "Hero Day". These two programs were responsible for providing over 3,000 veterans and National Guardsmen throughout the state with food, PPE, and personal items.

In the last few years New Jersey Veterans Network has grown and has been able to save lives, provide cars, employment, housing, clothing, food, toiletries, and so much more to heroes.

In the next few weeks, we will be launching a statewide anti-suicide and PTSD awareness campaign. We have joined forces with the NJ VFW, NJ American Legion, NJSPBA, NJ FMBA, NJ FOP, NJ Veterans Affairs, State Legislators, and numerous other groups and organizations.

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Financial donations are great but we mostly rely on volunteers and donated resources. Our charity allows donors the opportunity to choose where their funds go and the volunteers get to play an active role in changing someone's life.



(above) Rahway resident Maria Gonczlik volunteered to help out during Hero's Day.

If you are interested in joining the team as a volunteer, or are a veteran in need of assistance or comradeship, please contact us at NJVN1775@gmail.com or call 973-332-1556. Visit online at NJVN.org.

#### **ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK**

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our team is raising awareness of our veterans needs by organizing public speaking engagements, meeting with business and political leaders across the state and sponsoring fundraising events. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. To ensure that EVERY single one of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this great country, receives the resources that they require and deserve. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.



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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

# **WALK OR RUN TO SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS JUNE 21-26**

Hop on a treadmill, go to a local park, or walk ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED or run in your neighborhood to support services for people with disabilities and youth at risk in New Jersey!

The Community Access Unlimited virtual Ira Geller Walkathon runs the week of June 21-June 26. On June 26, individuals living near Warinanco Park in Roselle are invited to walk or run in the park. Registration details are available at cauni.org and on our event flyer.

Walker or runner tickets are \$30 and include a Walkathon t-shirt & race bib.

All event proceeds will support CAU programs serving more than 3,000 individuals and families in New Jersey, including housing, academics, employment training, day program and support

services for people with disabilities and youth at risk. These programs serve the agency's mission to create an all-inclusive, accessible world where everyone can lead a fulfilling life as part of the greater community.

CAU's annual Walkathon is named in memory of Ira Geller, a CAU member known for his advocacy for people with special needs who worked tirelessly to raise funds for the agency.

Walkers and runners are encouraged to invite friends, family and coworkers to join them virtually in the Walkathon June 21-26. Run or walk a route of your choosing and share your success on social media using #CAUWalk2021. When you're done, make sure to submit your photos to sthana@cauni.org for a chance to win a prize! Prizes will be awarded for: most dollars raised, best team photo and most creative challenge.

learn To more about CAU, visit www.caunj.org or follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Learn more about supporting the agency and become a monthly donor at www.caunj.org/support-us.

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating more than 40 years in 2021, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. CAU currently serves more than 3,000 individuals and families, with the number served growing each year.

For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908.354.3040, online at www.caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



# **READY TO REGISTER?** SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN! **CREATE TEAMS & DONATE**





(above) Walkathon 2020 at Warinanco Park.



# Wow! Are we selling Rahway, and for great prices!



513 N. Park Avenue Linden

Hats off to Sergia Floy! Amazingly dedicated Realtor Associate for many years with Jill Guzman Realty !!!! This home was sold directly by Sergia and had its successful closing March 2021! Happy Seller, Happy Buyer! When you are seeking a truly caring realtor, you have found one in Sergia!!! Call the office and ask for Sergiia!!! You will be glad you did!!!



**1322 Maple Terrace** Rahway



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Adorable colonial, but you are too late!!! Listed by Jill **Guzman and successfully** placed under contract in a week!!!! Buyers love the easy commute to NYC with the Rahway train steps away!!!!!! Your home may be worth more than you think. Call your neighbor and friend Jill for a free market analysis!!!!



1176 Kline Place **Rahway** 

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Jill, who lives in Rahway, NJ, had the honor of teaching at Rahway High School in her early career!!! Trusted and loved by clientele for three decades, sellers, investors, first time buyers and renters will find that this Real Estate office is committed to working harder and caring totally for YOU!

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(above) The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association has announced a summer Firelight Tavern Night on June 19, 2021 from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Call the museum office to reserve your spot 732-381-0441 or reserve online through the museum's website merchantsanddrovers.org.

# **AUXILIARY CHIEF AL PARKER RETIRES**

Congratulations to Auxiliary Chief Al Parker on his retirement. Auxiliary Chief Parker first joined the Rahway Police Auxiliaries in 1984, and has served faithfully for 37 years. The women and men of the Rahway Police Department salute you and thank you for your dedication and service.

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(above, l-r) Auxiliary Police Chief Alexander Parker, Rahway Police Chief John M. Rodger

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# **FIRELIGHT TAVERN NIGHT – JUNE 19**

Association has announced a summer Firelight Tavern Night on June 19, 2021 from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening under the stars at the Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum. Guests are invited to step back in time for a night of merriment and revelry at Rahway's own 226year-old tavern and inn.

As the sun sets over the tavern yard, attendees will be enchanted by the period music of Linda Russell, historical balladeer. Beer and wine will be available for guests 21 and over. Light refreshments and s'mores kits to roast over the fire pit will be provided.

The festivities begin at 7:30 p.m., with music beginning at 8 p.m. Reservations are recommended. Tickets are \$20 for the general public and \$15 for museum members and students. Tickets include two drink vouchers

The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum (drink vouchers for 21 and over only), refreshments, and s'mores kits. Parking will be at Parkside Plaza, 1600 St. Georges Avenue in Rahway. The Museum is located at 1632 St. Georges Avenue Rahway, NJ

> Call the museum office to reserve your spot 732-381-0441 or reserve online through the museum's website merchantsanddrovers.org.

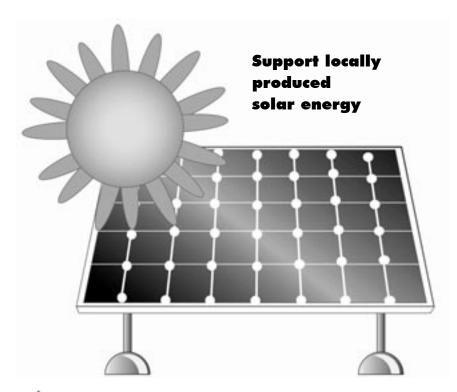
> The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association is dedicated to preserving the Merchants and Drovers Tavern (c. 1795), the Terrill Tavern (c. 1735), developing the site as a tavern museum and to interpreting the important role played by taverns in early American history and to preserving local history. The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum, located on the corner of St. Georges Avenue and Westfield Avenue, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey.



# **ENJOY SUNNY SAVINGS WITH COMMUNITY SOLAR!**



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Contact Erin at 908-768-2039 or erin@rooflesssolar.com

with any questions or for assistance with your subscription.



(above) Nurse Manager Rose Caleen, who has been professionally and personally impacted by Covid-19, was the first person at RWJUH Rahway to get vaccinated.





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# RWJ HOSPITAL PARTNERS WITH AGAPE FAMILY **WORSHIP CENTER TO OFFER FREE COVID-19 VACCINES AT COMMUNITY CLINIC JUNE 5 AND 6**

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) Rahway, an RWJBarnabas Health facility, has partnered with Agape Family Worship Center, the National Guard, the Office of Emergency Management and FEMA to provide free COVID-19 vaccinations on-site at the Agape church located at 501 East Hazelwood Ave in Rahway, on June 5th and 6th. The program is open to the community.

The Pfizer vaccine will be administered on-site, by appointment only, and requires two doses, spaced three weeks apart. Individuals ages 12 and up are eligible for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines, regardless of immigration or insurance status. Those ages 18 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

First doses will be administered on Saturday June 5th, from 8am-12pm and Sunday, June 6th from 12pm-4pm. The Pfizer vaccine is a two-dose vaccine, and individuals who register must be able to return in 21 days for their second vaccine, at the same location. Second doses will be administered on Saturday, June 26th from 8am-12pm and Sunday, June 27th from 2pm-5pm.

"This pop-up community clinic ensures that every eligible community member has an opportunity to get vaccinated to protect themselves and their families.," said RWJUH Rahway President and CEO Kirk Tice. "We are proud to do our part to help ensure that everyone has equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine and are grateful to the Agape Family Worship Center for this partnership."

Individuals can register for the vaccine by visiting: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/covid-19-vaccination-clinic-agape-family-worshipcenter-tickets-154034470247. Those who register will receive an email and text with a link to schedule an appointment.

#### **ABOUT RWJBARNABAS HEALTH**

RWJBarnabas Health is the largest, most comprehensive academic health care system in New Jersey, with a service area covering nine counties with five million people. The system includes eleven acute care hospitals - Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville, Community Medical Center in Toms River, Jersey City Medical Center in Jersey City, Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus in Lakewood, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center in Newark, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset in Somerville, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton in Hamilton, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway in Rahway and Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, three acute care children's hospitals and a leading pediatric rehabilitation hospital with a network of outpatient centers, a freestanding 100-bed behavioral health center, two trauma centers, a satellite emergency department, ambulatory care centers, geriatric centers, the state's largest behavioral health network, comprehensive home care and hospice programs, fitness and wellness centers, retail pharmacy services, affiliated medical groups, multi-site imaging centers and an accountable care organization.

RWJBH is New Jersey's largest private employer – with more than 35,000 employees, 9,000 physicians and 1,000 residents and interns - and routinely captures national awards for outstanding quality and safety. RWJBH and Rutgers University have partnered to create New Jersey's largest academic health care system. The collaboration aligns RWJBH with Rutgers' education, research and clinical activities, including those at the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey - the state's only NCIdesignated Comprehensive Cancer Center - and Rutgers University Behavioral Health.

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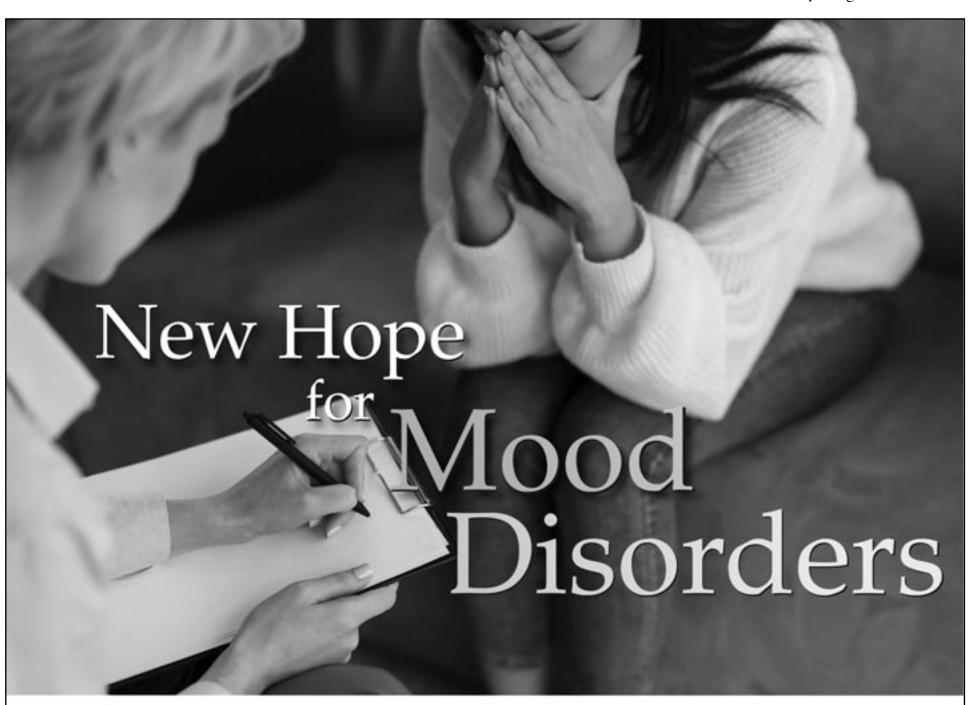
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epression and mood disorders can affect an individual's ability to carry on a normal life. They can leave a person feeling unusually sad, depressed, anxious, manic and generally not able to live life to its fullest.

One of the state's largest and comprehensive hospital-based Behavioral Health programs is offering new hope to patients with life-affecting mood disorders.

The new Mood Disorders Program at Trinitas Regional Medical Center has centralized all major treatments into a single, customized delivery system – one that now includes, medication, psychotherapy, esketamine and Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT).

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# **EMERGENCY SQUAD 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

70 Years is a long time, and we wanted to commemorate it with this special design Teeshirt. The below image will be on the back of the shirt, and an overlay of our original and current patch will be on the left upper chest area. This pays homage to our roots as well as where we are today with one of our Cadillacs, as well as our newest ambulance. The price per shirt is as follows:

Sizes up to XL-\$16 XXL-\$18 XXXL-\$19 XXXXI-\$20.

Child sizes small 6/8 medium 10/12, youth large 14/16 and youth extra large 18/20.

These prices are with local Rahway pickup. Anyone who requires shipping we will accommodate on a case by case basis at the actual shipping cost. Ideally we would like to do this by venmo with payment to @JohnMRodger. We will also except cash if you are able to in person pay.

All payments are due at time of order.

There is no profit in these shirts, they are being offered at our cost. Please don't hesitate if you are interested, as once we pass the minimum order threshold we will be putting up a last call of a few days and placing the order! Please ask any questions.. We are excited to get this order done and Celebrate this milestone for our organization.

> Follow Rahway Emergency Squad on Facebook.

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# RELIEF FROM CHRONIC KNEE PAIN

FDA Approved Treatment to Avoid Surgery

### DON'T BLAME THE ARROW FOR MISSING THE TARGET

Just like tens of millions of other Americans, you were looking for relief from your chronic knee pain. You thought Viscosupplementation injections might be the answer, but the results were disappointing and painful. Don't assume the treatment wasn't right. That could very well be like blaming the arrow for its path to the target when the problem might be the archer. If you didn't get the pain relief you were hoping for, chances are your injection treatment was off target. Unlike blind injections or even ultrasound targeted treatments found elsewhere,

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center uses diagnostic fluoroscopy to make sure the area that needs treated is the exact area where the injection goes. This is the most advanced method of delivering this pain relieving treatment with 95% accuracy to give you the results you're looking for. The use of Fluoroscopy guided injections sets Northeast Spine & Wellness Center apart. The end result is you living pain free from your chronic knee pain. You can avoid the lengthy and painful road of knee replacement surgery. You can avoid the endless trial and error assortment of potentially addictive prescription medications. This treatment, using fluoroscopy guided injections has seen a success rate of above 85% in those suffering from knee pain related to osteoarthritis, and that includes people with bone on bone involvement. You've suffered from chronic knee pain long mough, Call Northeast Spine & Wellness Center now for a RISK FREE consultation.



#### If Knee Surgery Sounds Scary, It Should

Have you have been told you are facing knee replacement surgery? Have you been told about all the downsides you could be facing? First and foremost, there are NO guarantees that knee replacement surgery will be the answer to your pain, but let's look further:

- Surgery is costly, regardless of the percentage of services covered by insurance. Surgery requires lost time from work and typically requires a regimen of
- rehabilitation and medications With surgery, there is always a risk for unwelcomed complications. And you
- could be back to where you started, or worse,
- Medications will be required for relief from surgery and you have been down that road before. Addictions to these pain medications can cause potential side effects, something you do not want to experience.
- Rehabilitation can take years.

#### Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportunity and a painless way to say goodbye to your knee pain without any surgery. Here are just a few of the important benefits you should consider?

- Diagnostic fluoroscopy accurately targets the pain, unlike blind injections.
- Guided fluoroscopic injections are virtually pain free, unlike blind injections
- No lost time from work or family.
- No expensive or time consuming rehabilitation
- No potentially addictive prescription medications
- Recovery time is almost instant, not months or years

#### How Does This New Treatment Work?

Relief begins almost as fast as it takes to pronounce the treatment. It's called Viscosupplementation Therapy. To begin with, it starts with Northeast

Spine & Wellness Center investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy This enables them to target the exact location of your knee pain with pinpoint accuracy. What follows is a simple injection that causes little to no pain. especially when compared to what you may be living with daily. That explains what you will see on the surface of this revolutionary treatment. What's taking place below the surface is how and where the natural healing process takes place. The injection of a Hyaluronic acid called Hyalgan. This gel-like substance was approved by the FDA in 1996. Hyulgan is a natural substance that mimics the synovial fluid that is already produced by your body in your joints. Osteoarthritis sufferers in particular see a reduction in this much needed synovial fluid in their knee joints. Without that cushioning layer of protection, the cartilage in your knee can begin to wear away leading to the rubbing of bone on bone. Through Viscosupplementation Therapy, this natural substance immediately goes to work reducing the swelling and inflammation in the joint and adding a coating layer of protection. Think about Dorothy taking the oil can to The Tin Man. You'll begin to feel that same kind of relief and quite possibly feel like you're ready for a dance down the yellow brick road to recovery yourself. And with a success rate of over 85% in alleviating pain associated with osteoarthritis, it's easy to see why this treatment is so readily covered by Medicare and by most major insurance providers. Diagnostic fluoroscopy to target the pain, Viscosupplementation Therapy to relieve the pain. Simple, fast and no surgery!

#### Do you Suffer from any of these Symptoms?

There are a number of reasons why you developed Ostcoarthritis pain. It can develop with age or because of heredity. It could be from repetitive stress from a job or some glory days in athletics. Of course your concern is with the symptoms you face daily and how to make them end, hopefully without surgery or the use of potentially addictive medications. Northeast Spine & Wellness Center understands the symptoms you have been

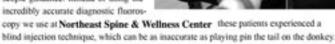
living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

- . Pain Whether it's a sharp aching or maybe a burning sensation, the pain can range from irritating to debilitating.
- · Swelling This can cause tenderness and soreness to the entire knee area, making walking or going up and down stairs painful, getting in and out of bed or bathtubs difficult and dangerous just name a few activities affected by swelling.
- · Stiffness Getting up out of bed or after sitting for a period of time gets more and more difficult. This loss of mobility can be more than a hindrance. It can be dangerous if you need to move quickly
- · Loss of muscle strength This can lead to balance issues and the strong possibility of falling
- Joint deformity Not just unsightly, but painful as well.
- · Creaking Joints Can be painful and a sign of more discomfort to come
- · Sleepless nights Losing sleep over your suffering is not just irritating, but potentially dangerous because of so many other health concerns that can be affected by loss of

### Let Me Show You Targeted Relief From Your Knee Pain

Every day, I see patients suffering from knee pain due to arthritis, osteoarthritis, sports injuries or other conditions Many have been told that they are in need of knee replacement surgery. Other patients say they have been prescribed various prescription medications to deal with the pain

Something else I see almost every day, are nationts that have tried viscosupplementation knee injections elsewhere and found it to be a painful and ineffective experience because the injections were not administered using fluoroscopic guidance. Instead of using the



Once I am able to explain to my patients about the pin point accuracy of using diagnostic fluoro copy and the amazing results viscosupplementation can provide, they are thrilled to get started They are even more thrilled when they feel the relief. Please contact Northeast Spine & Wellness Center today to schedule your RISK FREE consultation

Call 732-827-0800

#### Here's what our patients have to say

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# FRANKLIN TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Submitted by Linda Lospinso Lampert



these unprecedented times, the administration at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway wanted to make sure that their teachers know how much they are appreciated. Therefore, when Teacher Appreciation Week arrived during the first week of May, teachers at the school were surprised with various treats. The week started with treats from the 'happy cart,' which included coffee and chocolate-covered strawberries. The following day, everyone was treated to lunch. Mr. Herrera,

This school year has been unlike any other. In a Franklin School parent, and owner of Il Forna A Legna of Rahway came to the school with his mobile pizza truck. Each teacher received their own personal size pizza of their choice. The week was very successful and could not have been possible without the support of the Rahway Education Association, the Frankin School Parent Teacher Association, and the principal, Dr. Aleya Shoieb, and vice-principal, Dr. Juan Miao. The teachers were very appreciative and are grateful to everyone that helped make this week special.





Photo by Rahway Public Schools

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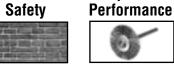
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# **FOOD FOR FRIENDS NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Rahway Food For Friends continues to feed the hungry, homeless and underserved families in the community. The demand for food continues to increase along with essential needs for most single mothers. We continue to work together to provide food and hope as a partner agency of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, yet we still need your help.

We are currently in need of diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, and baby food. As well as all nonperishable food items.

information, please visit our website at rahwayfoodforfriendsnj.org. Checks and be made payable to and mailed: Rahway Food For Friends, 1221 New Brunswick Ave., Rahway, NJ 07065.

To drop off a donation, please stop by our headquarters, 1221 New Brunswick Ave., on these days and times only: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Please use the glass doors to maintain social distancing.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to fight hunger in the community.



# **CANNED FOOD DRIVE**



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Provides Rahway families and individuals with dignified access to nutritious, supplemental groceries, free of charge.

The best food donations are healthy (low-fat, low-sugar, low-sodium) and meet the needs of the multicultural communities served by RFFF.

#### THE FOODS NEEDED MOST ARE:

\*Low sodium & low sugar preferred. \*No glass please!

- Baby Formula and baby food
- Diapers
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- 1 lb. bags of Rice
- Canned Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Peanut Butter (in plastic jars)
- Low Sugar Cereal



### **DONATIONS MAY BE DROPPED OFF TO** 1221 New Brunswick Avenue

Rahway, New Jersey 07065 Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays

from 9am until 12pm. Contact us at 732-381-7201

Thank you so much for your support! Learn more at

www.rahwayfoodforfriendsnj.org

# CAMP PATRIOT RUN, RUCK, RIDE CHALLENGE TO SUPPORT DISABLED NJ VETERANS

Network are teaming up to host the 1st Annual Camp Patriot Run, Ruck, Ride Challenge from June 17 to 20, 2021.

Camp Patriot's mission is to empower American Disabled Veterans by providing them the right relationships and assistance so that they can once again enjoy the great outdoors. The proceeds raised from this event will help send disabled New Jersey Veterans to attend Camp Patriot. The event will take place both virtually To make a monetary donation, or for more and in-person over the span of five days. This allows individuals to participate from the comfort of their own homes, neighborhoods, local parks or join us in person at our event location which will be announced at a later date on our registration page.

> "We're excited to get back out there, bring together the community and help raise money to send deserving Veterans to Camp Patriot." -Brett D'Alessandro, President of Backpacks For Life "The New Jersey Veterans Network is excited to be teaming up with Backpacks For Life and doing an event to shed a light on our

Backpacks For Life and New Jersey Veterans Anti-Suicide and PTSD Awareness campaign. All funds raised will go towards sending disabled New Jersey Veterans to Camp Patriot in Montana." - Michael Boll, President of New Jersey Veterans Network

> To learn more about the event and register to participate, visit https://tinyurl.com/runruckride. With your registration, you receive an event bib, t-shirt and challenge coin.

> Backpacks For Life is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and at-risk veteran community. By regularly distributing backpacks filled with essentials to Veterans on the streets and providing mentorship to at-risk Veterans and their families, Backpacks For Life aims to bridge the gap between Veterans and the resources available to them.

> New Jersey Veterans Network's mission is to help New Jersey Veterans and their families enjoy a sustainable quality of life by creating a network of Community Veteran Liaisons ("CVL") whose role is to identify veterans, and connect them with resources & solutions designed to meet the unique set of veteran needs.

### **FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP – JUNE 15**

Are you feeling stressed and alone in trying to cope with the effects of a loved one's mental illness? NAMI Union County's Family Support Group is for family members and caregivers of persons with mental illness. Join our peer-led group meetings and gain insight from others

facing the same challenges.

Zoom sessions are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

register, email Denise namiunioncounty@yahoo.com with your name, town, and phone number.

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(above) Past President of The Rahway Garden Club, James Keane, has been researching and answering garden questions since 1995. Visit 'Keane Gardener' blog at: keanegardener.blogspot.com



Join Us At Our June Meeting Merchants & Drovers Tavern

1632 Saint Georges Ave. at Grand Ave. Thursday, June 17, 2021 'COME SHARE YOUR LOVE OF GARDENING WITH US'

7 PM until 8:30 PM



# **LEOPARD SLUGS**

The best reason to attract birds during spring In the morning after the damage is done, a trail of slime is evidence that slugs are feasting in your garden. Gardeners have many different favorite plants to grow; annuals, perennials, flowers and vegetables. There is one thing all gardeners agree on, our common hatred of slugs.

Slugs devour all types of vegetation, especially when it's young and tender. Left unchecked repeated slug attacks will soon bring your plants to ground level. Dahlias for one, can be hard to grow if slugs are permitted to repeatedly eat it as it breaks the ground.

In New Jersey our common 'leopard slugs' are not native but were accidently bought here by the Europeans. Since then, it has spread to become a common garden pest in the northeast.

Although the slimy trail is disgusting to humans, slugs could not survive without it. The foul tasting covering of slugs is its main defense against predators. Once tasted most animals will not come back for a second taste. Two exceptions are skunks and possum which include slugs in their daily diets.

The slime is also a home tracking device. If a slug goes on a journey, it can follow the scent of its trail back to its territory in the morning.

Slug slime also plays a major role in a slug's mating ritual. Once a suitable mate is found, both creatures climb very high on a tree and locate a suitable branch. Once there the pair join together and create a very long slime rope on which they dangle and do the mating dance.

One summer night years ago, I let my dog Elsa out and got to witness this first hand. Hanging at least thirty feet from the branch, the pair embraced themselves and did an elaborate display you have to see to believe. Sliding back and forth I knew I was watching and ancient mating ritual, a miracle of mother nature. Although I knew this would result in hundreds of baby slugs in my garden I decided to walk away and not interfere. As the old expression says "It's not nice to mess with Mother Nature."

Slugs lay hundreds of eggs and the tiny critters are hungry so be aware of them. Light brown or tan when young the pattern that gives them their name, leopard slugs, appear as they get more mature.

There are some solutions for slugs, but for immediate results, hand picking gets the quickest





(above,, l-r) Snails are the unappreciated jewels of our woodlands and forest. Our local Leopard slug displays its markings when fully

Photograph by National Geographic

response. I know, I know.... touching slugs, YUK! Wear disposable gloves and use a tool such as an old fork to knock the slugs into a cup of soapy water and drown them.

The best time to hand pick slugs is at night when they are active. Bring a flashlight out into the garden with the cup of soapy water and drop the slugs into it. If you have a bad infestation this task will have to be repeated. A rainy or drizzly day is also good for this task.

Laying crushed egg shells around the base of your plants creates a barrier slugs don't like to cross as the course edges cut into the slug's flesh.

Many gardeners use 'diatomaceous earth'. Its soft siliceous shell has tiny very sharp edges that also create a barrier slugs will not cross. A word of caution... diatomaceous earth is light and can be blown by the wind. Wear protective covering over your eyes nose mouth and hands. The rule for all organics is "you want it on your plants, NOT IN YOUR LUNGS".

Other controls can be simple. Water in the morning so the ground is dry at night. Don't put mulch around Hosta or other desirable plants; that creates a hiding place for slugs. The leaves of Hosta create plenty of shade, referred to as "living mulch" so they don't need it. Only mulch newly planted Hosta for the first year to protect them when they are tender.

Snails and slugs are related and snails can also do damage to your garden plants. Snails tend to leave tiny holes in the leaves and control is

There are over one hundred species of snails in New Jersey. Actually, slugs are snails without

Happy Gardening,





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3/8 Riverbed / Pea Gravel	\$60	
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# **GREEKFEST "TO GO" JUNE 4 – 5**

If you're looking for some good homemade Greek food, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Westfield is hosting their Annual GreekFest but it's "TO GO". Get some delicious take-out on Friday, June 4th from 4-9 p.m., and Saturday June 5th from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Some of their specialties like Pasticcio, Souvlaki, Gyros, and desserts like Baklava and Galatopuriko will be available to order on-line at NJGREEKFEST.COM.

So, order online at NJGREEKFEST.COM, and pick up your food in the parking lot of the church located at 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ. Who knows? There may be dancing in the isles!!

And remember, everyone can be Greek for a day at NJGreekFest!

# Vintage & Antiques & Craft Fair

50+ exhibitors | COVID guidelines enforced

Sun. June 13 · 10AM-5PM Fanwood NJ Train Station

256 South Ave. side, (park on 238 North Ave side)

201,998,1144 www.jcpromotions.info

# **VINTAGE & ANTIQUES CRAFTS FAIR – JUNE 13**

Vintage & Antiques Crafts Fairs will be held on Sundays June 13 and October 24, 2021 in the Fanwood Train Station (south side). Featuring 50+ exhibitors selling vintage items from days gone by along with hand made items from 201.998.6311, events@jcpromotions.info.

Hosted by the Borough of Fanwood, two artisans and craftspeople. This free event is open to the public from 10 a.m. -5 p.m. There will be a selection of food so come hungry and enjoy.

> For more general information, or on becoming an exhibitor please, contact JC Promotions at





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\*DRAINAGE\* \*CLEANUPS\* \*MULCH\* rimming\*

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# CASA TAPS NEW LEADER MARIEL HUFNAGEL NAMED TO NONPROFIT HELM

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County is pleased to announce the selection of Mariel S. Hufnagel as Executive Director. The nonprofit recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned Union County children placed in foster care or residential facilities and awaiting a safe and permanent home.

"The board and staff consider ourselves fortunate to have found a leader with such deep passion for and commitment to children living in foster care," said Dr. Ron Silver, president of the Board of Trustees. "Combined with her prior post as a nonprofit executive director, numerous leadership certifications and her doctorate degree underway, Mariel is well-positioned to lead CASA of Union County into its most bright and meaningful future yet. Additionally, she brings personal experience as a foster parent; an invaluable perspective as she ushers the board and staff in continuing to advance CASA's mission. We look forward to working with her."

Previously executive director of The Ammon Foundation, Mrs. Hufnagel led and facilitated its vision, mission and strategic plan to empower individuals in addiction recovery by combating stigma and providing strategic support to remove barriers and enable personal success. She also is a former advocacy organizer for the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-New Jersey (NCADD-NJ). Mrs. Hufnagel holds both Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Public

Administration from Kean University, and is completing her doctorate in Organizational Leadership from Adler University. In addition, her lived experience as a foster parent provides an insider's perspective as the organization continues its work to ensure every foster youth has an advocate – a consistent, caring adult presence – in their corner.

"I am truly honored to have been entrusted by the Board of Trustees to lead CASA of Union County, an organization whose mission epitomizes my personal and professional commitment to ensuring that the voiceless have voices," said Mrs. Hufnagel. "There is no more vulnerable population in Union County than its foster youth. I look forward to working closely with the incredibly hard-working staff, our tireless advocates and all of our community partners. Together, we will ensure the next level of growth for CASA of Union County by continuing tenacious recruiting, vetting, training and supporting of volunteer advocates while exploring and implementing strategic and innovative community partnerships initiatives."

Through court-ordered access to foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers, CASA volunteers ensure the best interests of foster youth remain priority as all parties work toward establishing a safe, stable and permanent home. For details on becoming an advocate or other ways to get involved, contact Walia Worrill at wworrill@casaofunioncounty.org.



(above) Mariel S. Hufnagel is the new Executive Director of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County.

\*Some expiration dates apply so don't delay



**549 Lexington Avenue • Cranford** 

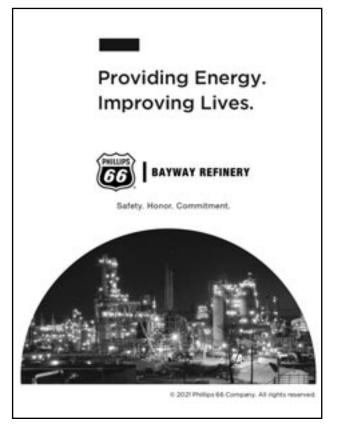
# REMEMBERING "RAHWAY DAY" AT THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR

Submitted by Al Shipley, City Historian and Rahway Library Research Consultant

Newspaper articles dating as far back as the 1880s show that throughout the history of the city, Rahway citizens have always been enthusiastic in promoting and supporting any observance or celebration on the calendar. Whether it was observing Washington's or Lincoln's birthday, or Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, or Veterans' Day, or the city's Centennial, or the nation's Bicentennial, the city responded with civic fervor. It made no difference if it was an annual or a one-time observance, committees were formed to make plans for participation. The year 1964 marked the 300th anniversary of the founding of New Jersey and in the same year New York City would commemorate its own 300th anniversary by hosting a two-year world's fair. Rahway would not miss out on the celebration.

In preparation for the special year, Rahway officials formed a Tercentenary Committee whose purpose was to creatively publicize the city and its institutions in a positive manner with the goal of building civic pride. They kicked-off the celebration on February 1st with a Tercentenary Banquet and Ball held at the Cross Keys Hotel. The committee's most important, responsibility would be the planning and executing of "Rahway Day" at the New York World's Fair.

It's hard to imagine the excitement and grandeur of the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair, especially for those who were born after the Fair or for those too young to remember the event. Touted as the first billion dollar fair in history, it was the biggest exposition the world had ever known or has seen since. Stretched over an area of 646 acres at the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens, New York City, the Fair ran for two six-month seasons, April to October. According to the Official Guidebook of the Fair, "The visitor will find almost everything at the Fair. It is a circus and a classroom, a voyage around the world, a look back at the past, a glimpse into the future." Five distinct sections







(above, left) Fairgoers were treated to musical selections sung by the Rahway High School Madrigals. (above, right) Painting demonstrations were given by the Rahway Art Center.

Photo by Kenneith M. Lonky; Photo by Star Key Photo Service, Rahway, NJ



(above) The New Jersey Pavilion was ideally located next to the Unisphere, the symbol of the fair. The pavilion consisted of 21 small pavilions, representing the state's 21 counties, arranged around a central theater.

(Industrial, International, Federal and State, Transportation, and Lake Amusement) highlighted the progress that had been made in the world in the fields of art, science, education, invention, and industry. Over 140 pavilions, hosted by forty-five corporations, twenty-four U.S. states, and eighty nations from around the world, showcased diverse cultures and technologies. More than fifty million people passed through the gates to experience the sights, sounds, excitement, and fun offered at this spectacular venue.

"Rahway Day" was held on Saturday, June 13. At 9:00 that morning, a special train left Rahway Station with 731 passengers on board headed for the fairgrounds. Another 200 citizens would make the trip on chartered buses. After the groups arrived and purchased their tickets (\$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children 13 and under), they found their way to the New Jersey Pavilion where local talent and exhibits would be on display for the entire day.

The "Rahway Day" program opened with a greeting from Tercentenary Committee Chairman, Nicholas Sottolano and a welcome from Mayor Robert E. Henderson. Union County Freeholder Walter E. Ulrich and several councilmen made additional remarks. After the speakers, the Rahway High School Band took the stage and played a medley of marches and dance music. The Chantelles, a Rahway High vocal group, entertained the audience with seven songs. The Madrigal Singers, another ensemble from the



(above) A "Rahway Day" souvenir.

high school, sang two numbers and then selected members from both groups joined to perform the telephone scene from the Broadway musical "Bye, Bye Birdie." Over 100 students participated in the various performances.

Along with the musical presentations, the Rahway Art Center gave demonstrations in oil painting and watercolors. The Art Center's Children's classes had created posters prior to the Fair for entry in a contest. Thirty entries were selected as winners and were placed on display in the pavilion. Essays, posters, and exhibits had also been submitted by students in the Rahway School System and were likewise displayed. The Rahway Redevelopment Agency erected an exhibit to illustrate the progress of the Lower Main Street Urban Renewal and East Hazelwood projects, one of the largest such projects in the state. The Agency also showed films featuring Rahway's industries.

An encore presentation of musical offerings would be given later in the day which left plenty of time for guests and performers to enjoy the many pavilions and amusements throughout the fairgrounds.

An editorial that appeared in the Rahway-News Record following the Fair gave credit to the fine work done by the committee in orchestrating the successful event. It concluded, "The program served to bring many citizens of the city together and promoted pride in Rahway. We have not heard of a person who did not have a good time at the Fair."

## FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

#### Submitted by Linda Lampert

Franklin Elementary School in Rahway recently held its annual Multicultural Night for its students, staff, and families. Due to Covid, this year's multicultural event was held virtually, but nonetheless, it was awesome. The entire school community worked synergistically together in order to plan, contribute, and execute this wonderful school-wide event. The various wonderful exhibits can be found at http://bit.ly/fesvirtualmm.

Families also had the opportunity to visit the Family Heritage Center and share something about their family's heritage, as well as stop by a virtual escape room to give that a try. Families that successfully escaped the virtual escape room were awarded a prize basket. Twenty baskets in all were given out.

This successful event could not have taken place without the support of the Rahway Education Association, the Franklin School Parent Teacher Association, and the amazing leaders at Franklin Elementary School.



(above) 6th grader, Sophia Zuniga, one of the winners of the Virtual Escape Room.

Photo by Rahway Public Schools

# DONATE BLOOD DURING SHORTAGE

Every day, patients rely on blood transfusions and the transfusion of red blood cells, platelets and plasma to stay alive. But blood and blood products cannot be manufactured; they can only come from volunteer donors.

Blood products also typically have a short shelf life – ranging from five to 42 days, so constant replenishment is needed.

There remains an emergency blood shortage due to the coronavirus pandemic, which has limited the amount of walk-in community blood drives at such convenient locations as schools, libraries and houses of worship.

New Jersey Blood Services (2279 South Ave., Scotch Plains), a division of New York Blood Center, is part of one of the largest independent, community-based, non-profit blood centers in the United States that provides lifesaving blood products and services to nearly 200 hospitals in the tri-state area.

In order to be an eligible donor, you must be at least 16 years old (with parental permission or consent for those under 18 years of age), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all FDA and state Department of Health donor criteria. People over 75 years old may donate with a doctor's note.

To donate call (908) 232-9234, or schedule online: donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/zip



(above) To learn more about New Jersey Blood Services visit the Scotch Plains Township channel on Youtube to view "Business of the Week: New Jersey Blood Services".





# **UGGLA, THE GREAT HORNED OWL, PASSES**

On January 9, 2021, The Raptor Trust announced one of their very dearest ambassador birds, Uggla, the Great Horned Owl, had passed on at age 40. Chris Soucy, director of the organization, wrote a tribute to Uggla on their Facebook page and asked the public to share their memories of Uggla. At this writing the post received 1.1 K likes, 135 comments, and 187 shares.

The Raptor Trust is a 501c 3 non-profit organization located in Millington, NJ that provides free medical care to thousands of injured and orphaned wild birds each year. In addition, they provide educational programs to individuals, clubs, and schools about New Jersey's native raptors. Learn more at theraptortrust.org.

Chris Soucy, Director, The Raptor Trust, Facebook homage to Uggla reprinted below, reveals the history, and passion of the organization.

Uggla was an almost unimaginable 40 years old. In the research I have done, I believe he may have been the second-oldest Great Horned Owl that ever lived, and he lived almost every day of those 40 years right here at 1390 White Bridge Rd, Millington, NJ.

In the early spring of 1980, I was a freshman in high-school. The backyard wildlife rehab facility that my parents ran on our property had not yet become The Raptor Trust. It was still The New Jersey Raptor Association at that point: not yet incorporated and without the 501(c)3 nonprofit status that would follow. A "fledgling" organization, one might say. But Len and Diane knew their birds. Even though The Raptor Trust wasn't hatched until a few years later, they had been caring for wild birds – often in the laundry room or bathroom of the house – since the mid-1960's.

It was in that setting that someone dropped off a young floof of an owl. Just a few weeks old, the owl had been found by some well-intentioned local folks who attempted to raise it on their own. There are few things cuter than a baby owl, I'll give you that. But raising a wild baby owl is not easy to do. It is also against state and federal law. The owl wasn't being fed a proper diet, did not have proper housing and it wasn't thriving.

Worse, even though it had been with the folks who found it for only a few weeks, it was already completely imprinted and dependent on humans, having been hand-fed and socialized to people. This youngster, still fluffy, had already lost his chance to survive in the wild. Since he was so young, and already so accustomed to people, Len and Diane made the decision to keep him as an education and ambassador bird.

My grandparents and my 95-year-old greatgrandmother joined us for dinner one night that spring, shortly after the owl's arrival. Greatgrandma Alma Gustavson, a first-generation immigrant from Sweden, saw the bird and proclaimed, "Uggla!" She explained: "Uggla" means "owl" in Swedish. And so, his journey as "Uggla" began.

For 40 years Uggla delighted visitors here. He



(above) Uggla, the Great Horned Owl

Photo by The Raptor Trust

was talkative. Children would inevitably "hoot" at him - he was an owl after all - and he would often return the favor.

He was inquisitive. Having been imprinted, he had no fear of humans and would often sit out during the day, right up at the front of his enclosure, engaging passers-by with his big, yellow eyes and that kind of funny way he always tilted his head to one side. He really seemed to enjoy it.

He was photogenic. He has graced many of our gift shop cards, mugs and other items, including a holiday card we sent out last month.

Not long ago, some of my young second cousins came to visit – little guys two generations further down the family tree than me. While passing by Uggla's enclosure, it occurred to me that SIX generations of my family knew this one amazing bird. That's hard to wrap my head around, but there it is. SIX.

Later in his life, Uggla's voice changed and began to make this kind of scratchy, cracklysounding call. Len used to say that he had "lost his hooter." He was still as talkative as ever; he just sounded like a grumpy, little old man mumbling under his breath. In owl-culture, perhaps that's exactly what he was.

There would be no way to even begin to count the number of people this one wonderful bird met, delighted, hooted at, taught. Tens of thousands for sure. Possibly hundreds of thousands.

While it would have been better in every way for him to have lived a natural life in the wild, he did live an amazing and meaningful life as an ambassador for his species and for all wildlife. Godspeed, old man.

If you have your own story about this wonderful owl, please do share. We know that many of you loved Uggla just as much as we did. Visit us on Facebook at The Raptor Trust.

#### RAPTOR TRUST VIRTUAL EVENTS THIS SPRING

The Raptor Trust is a 501© 3 non-profit organization located in Millington, NJ that provides free medical care to thousands of injured and orphaned wild birds each year. In addition, they provide educational programs to individuals, clubs, and schools about New Jersey's native raptors.

The Raptor Trust is offering the following virtual program options this spring:

#### RAPTOR CONFERENCE CALL

\$30 for two screens/households. 20 minutes with a TRT educator and one of our ambassador birds.

#### **SMALL GROUP PROGRAM**

\$60 for up to 12 participants. 40-minute program led by one of the TRT educators and an ambassador bird. Program topics vary.

#### **LARGE GROUP ADULT PROGRAM**

\$80 for up to 50 participants. 45-minute program led by one of the TRT educators and an ambassador bird. Program topics vary.

#### **TEACHER-MODERATED CLASSROOM PROGRAMS**

\$80 for 45-minute program. Maximum 35 students and 2 teachers. Choose from a variety of lesson plans that can be integrated into your existing curriculum.

For more information and to book a program please visit

theraptortrust.org/education/programs

## **RUTGERS MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM**

Rutgers Master Gardeners are trained • Horticultural therapy volunteers who assist Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension in its mission to deliver horticulture programs and information to the general public. Anyone with an interest in • Harvesting and packing food for the hungry gardening and a commitment to volunteer service can become a Rutgers Master Gardener. No previous education or training in horticulture is

#### **RUTGERS MASTER GARDENERS USE THEIR SKILLS IN A VARIETY OF AREAS, INCLUDING:**

- Gardening demonstrations
- Telephone Helpline and Plant Clinics
- Community and youth gardening

- Information booths at county fairs and other public events
- Research assistance at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

#### **UNION COUNTY**

The Rutgers Master Gardener Union County Helpline is open to the general public and is staffed year-round. April through November hours are, Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Fridays from 1 p.m. to 1 p.m. and can be reached at mastergardeners@ucnj.org or 908-654-9852. To learn more about the program visit njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners/.

# TEACHERS AND STUDENTS STRIVE FOR SUCCESS DURING AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

#### Community Access Unlimited

Michael Adamowsky says he didn't plan it, but he has found his purpose in life through teaching.

After completing his master's degree in accounting and starting a career at Community Access Unlimited (CAU), Adamowsky found that the accounting position didn't suit him, and he didn't like sitting at a computer all day. He decided to become more directly involved in the mission of CAU, to integrate people with disabilities and youth at risk into the community through comprehensive supports.

Now, Adamowsky is an educational specialist at the CAU Day Program, where he leads groups in a variety of subjects and gets members involved in different activities. He also assists at the Academy of Continuing Education, CAU's answer to post-graduation learning for adults with developmental disabilities.

As a person on the autism spectrum, Adamowsky said he is able to relate to his students with disabilities in a unique way.

"I want to be a role model for them," Adamowsky said. "I want to be someone they can look up to."

This April, The Autism Society of America made a shift to celebrating Autism Acceptance Month, previously known as Autism Awareness Month. The campaign is designed to celebrate differences and increase awareness of the signs, symptoms, and realities of autism.

Adamowsky said he wants to give members all the support they could need or want to succeed in their Day Program groups. He also wants people to know that having a diagnosis does not mean a person can't excel in their studies and be successful.

"I received 'normal' schooling through life; because of my autism I just had a little help along the way," Adamowsky said. He was named hardest working student in his class, was inducted into multiple honor societies, and went on to achieve his master's degree.

Adamowsky brings the same passionate energy to his online learning groups as he did in person at Day Program.

"That's basically the cornerstone of this whole thing," he said. "I feel like the teacher has to be just as involved and enthusiastic as the members are, because if the teacher isn't able to teach, how will the students be able to learn?"

"He's a great example to our members and members who are striving to work," said Onekia Grier, managing assistant executive director of Day Habilitation and Educational Services. "He does such a great job with teaching, there is a waiting list for members to get in his groups."

Adamowsky said he is carefully planning syllabi for groups like math and science, poetry writing, and financial literacy for the return of inperson Day Program services when the program reopens under state COVID-19 guidelines.

"I see what's on the inside and what they're capable of doing," Adamowsky continued. "A lot of the members have told me that's why they love me, because I'm able to see past their disability



(above) Michael Adamowsky is an educational specialist at CAU.

and they haven't had interactions with other people that are the same."

CAU members with autism can benefit from a variety of supports, from Day Program to behavioral support to employment training, depending on their needs and goals.

Kyzier Davis is a new CAU member who is excited to graduate from high school in June. "I have support from my staff, social workers and teachers," Davis said.

Davis said he is not sure what he wants to do after he graduates, but he is focused on coping and life skills with the help of CAU behaviorists and his residential program staff. Exercise has been one of the most beneficial ways to help regulate his emotions.

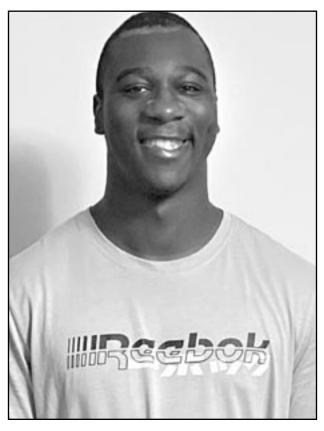
"Even if I have good days and bad days, I do pushups every day," Davis said. "I feel relief and calm from exercise."

Davis, 21, said he is concentrating on managing his behavior in public by expressing himself at home. That includes drawing and writing down his feelings in a journal. One goal he has is to one day see himself on TV.

"I've had a lot of good days so far...I had a great March," Davis said of his time with CAU. Adamowsky said he hopes that people with autism never limit themselves in life.

"I really hope that autistic people are not afraid to be themselves," he said. "There is a purpose in life for everyone; no matter what kind of person you are there's a pot of gold waiting for you at the end of the rainbow if you're just willing to find it."

To learn more about CAU, visit caunj.org or follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Learn more about supporting the agency and become a monthly donor at caunj.org/support-us/.



(above) Kyzier Davis is a student and new member at CAU.

#### **ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED**

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating more than 40 years in 2021, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. CAU currently serves more than 3,000 individuals and families, with the number served growing each year. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, online at caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

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